



# Verification versus Validation

In real-time embedded automotive software



François-Xavier de LAUNET

April 2015



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# Agenda

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1

Tests usual/specific issues in real-time embedded automotive software - Context

2

Optimize test effort during design process - Triptych

3

Test and verification techniques portfolio - Examples



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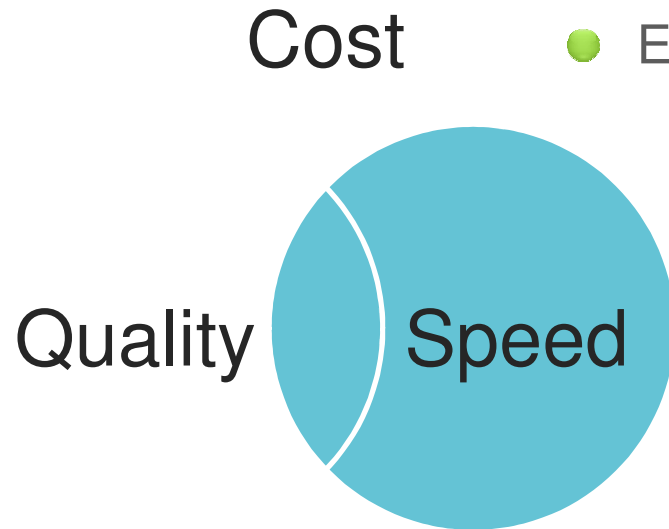
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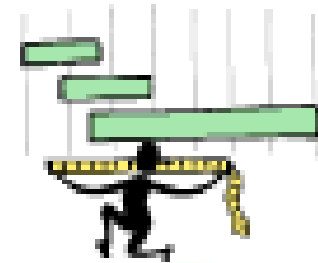
# Software automotive constraints



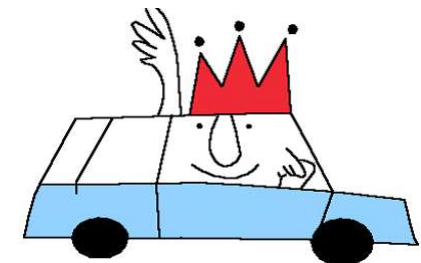
- Stay in cost frame (R&D budget)
- Project profitability (Margin)
- Eco design (Limit HW resources usage, commercially viable)



- Automotive industry is planning-driven (*Start Of Production never shift*)
- Strong VALEO commitment but Customer needs uncertainty

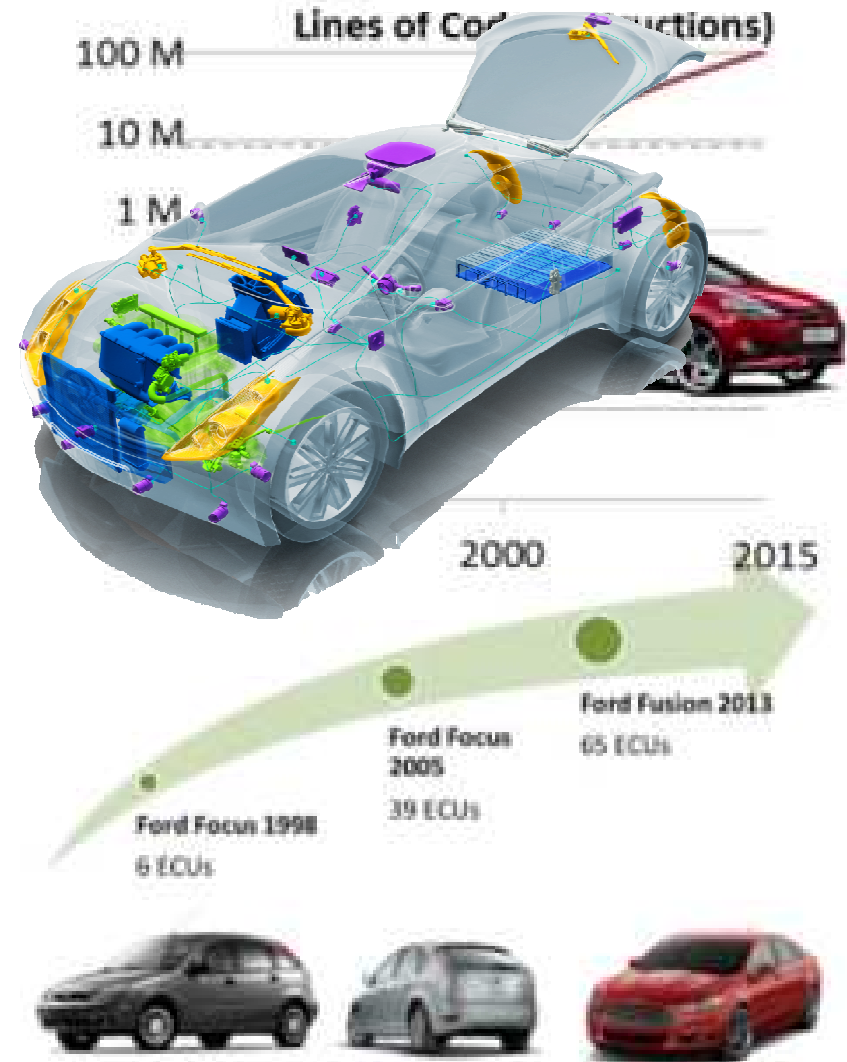
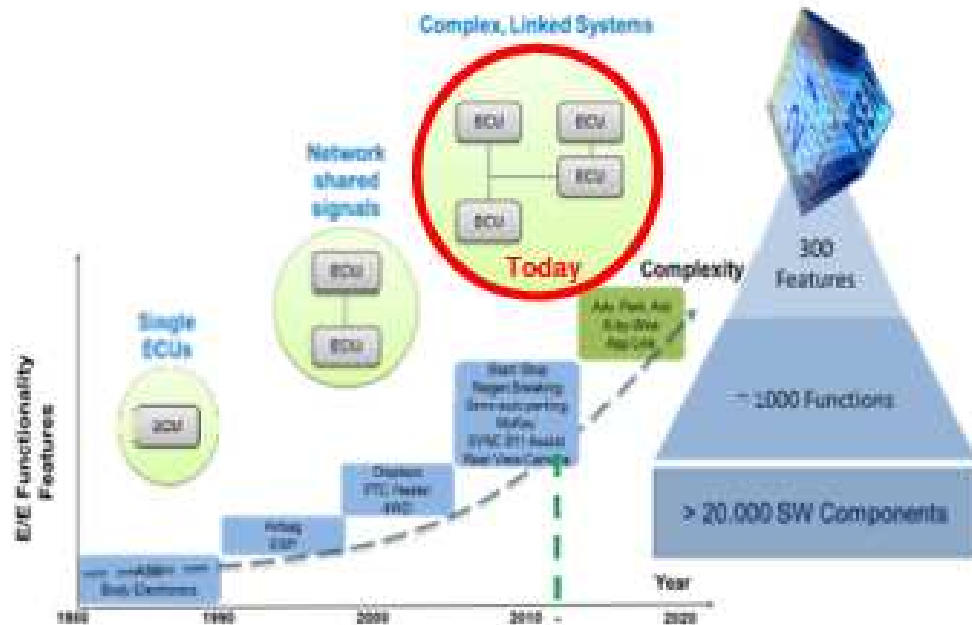


- *Economic Security* (Mass production)
- Complexity increase due to innovations in Premium Cars
- Dependability (*ISO 26262*)
- Deliver demanded functionality without trial & errors



# Software automotive increased complexity

Features are highly complex and often distributed over many physical modules



Growth of Software and increasing complexity require enhanced Processes, Methods & Tools to support development of high quality software.

Source : FORD QPIP11C



# VALEO at a glance

- VALEO: Focus innovation on reducing CO2 emissions and is a pioneer in “Intuitive Driving”.

*At the end of the day...*

*... car will be automated,*



**AUTOMATED  
CARS**

**SAFE &  
INTUITIVE  
HMI**



*...and new human machine  
interfaces will be required*



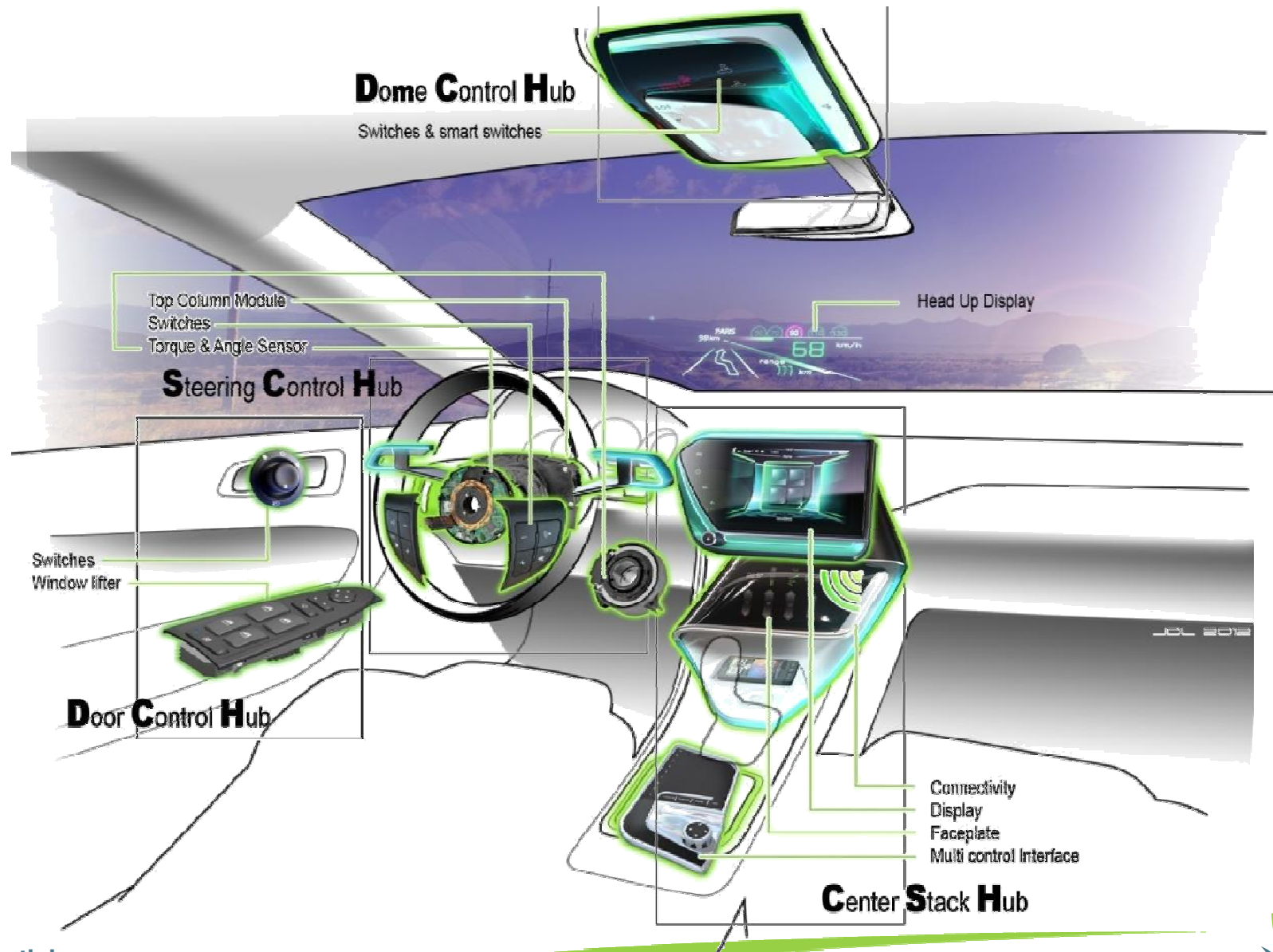
**VALEO INTUITIVE DRIVING**

*...car will be connected,*



**CONNECTED  
CARS**

# VALEO Intuitive Driving Cockpits



# Test usual issue - What keeps us up at night ?



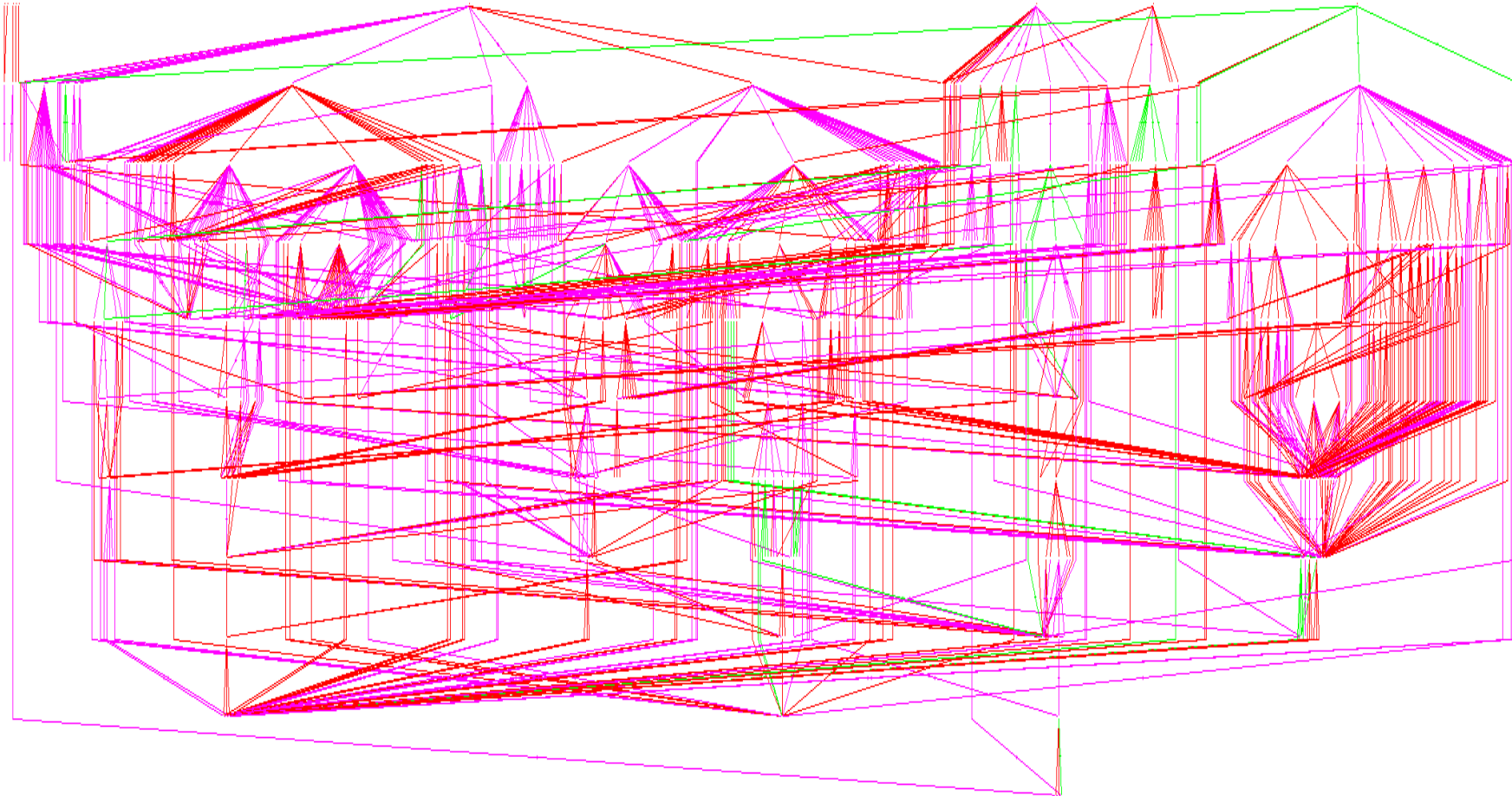
- Project Planning
  - Previous design phases may overrun
  - Time-to-market pressures affect time available for testing
  - Limited resources
- Complete testing NOT feasible
  - Increased complexity
  - Real-time non-determinism

- Appropriate Testing
  - Economic security
  - Norm requirements (Dependability)
  - Effective testing; Non redundant testing
  - Quantifiable (How much test and where?)
  - Realistic and commercially viable



# Test usual issues – Quality control

- How to guarantee the quality of this software?

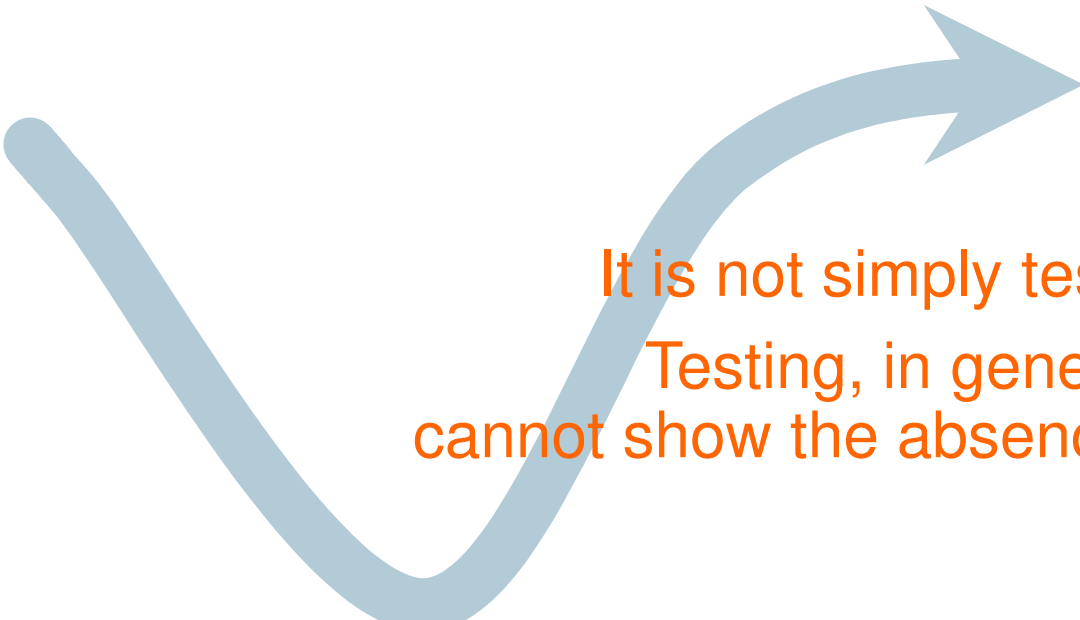




# Test usual issues - Conclusion

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- Software verification & Validation is satisfied thru:
  - development of test cases and procedures, and subsequent execution of those test procedures
  - a combination of reviews, inspections, analysis, walkthroughs, check-list, **part of software engineering activities**



It is not simply testing.  
Testing, in general,  
cannot show the absence of errors.

# Agenda

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2

Optimize test effort during design process - Triptych

Cut the complexity

Architecture driven

Foster reuse (Idea of “*Fixed – Variable – New*”)

3

Test and verification techniques portfolio - Examples

4

Conclusion

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# Why do we need Software Processes?

- Human cognitive complexity

- Miller law (1956)

The capacity of our short term memory is 7 (+ or - 2) « Chunks »

- Software Design

Analyze



Design



Code



Binary

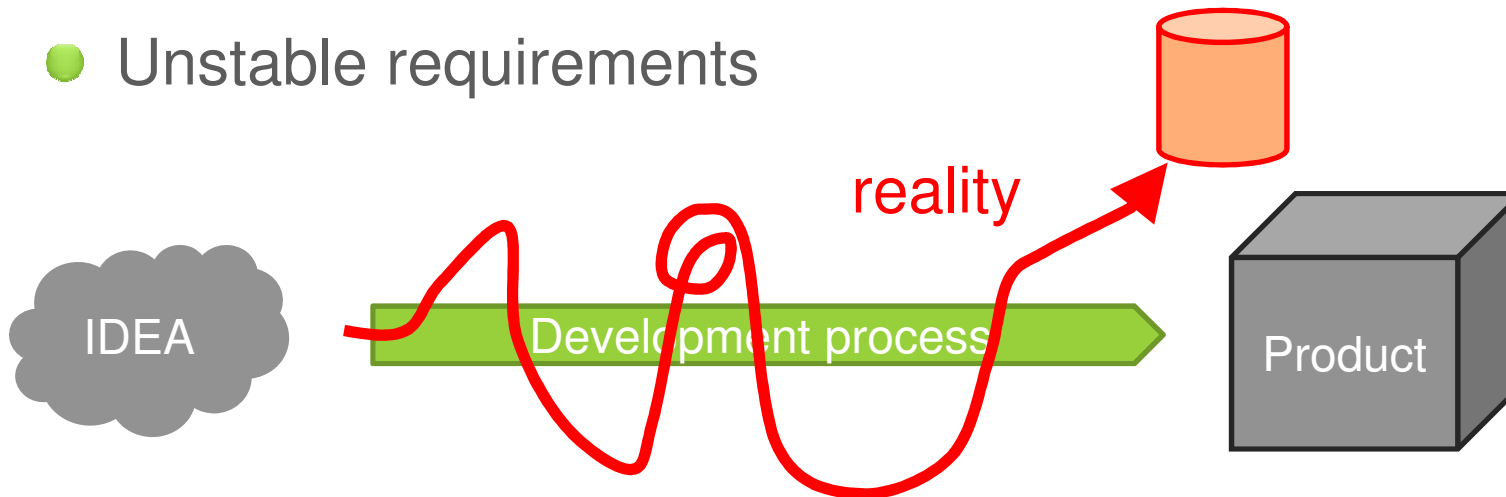
- Human comprehension

=> Cognitive complexity

- Real time execution, data exchange

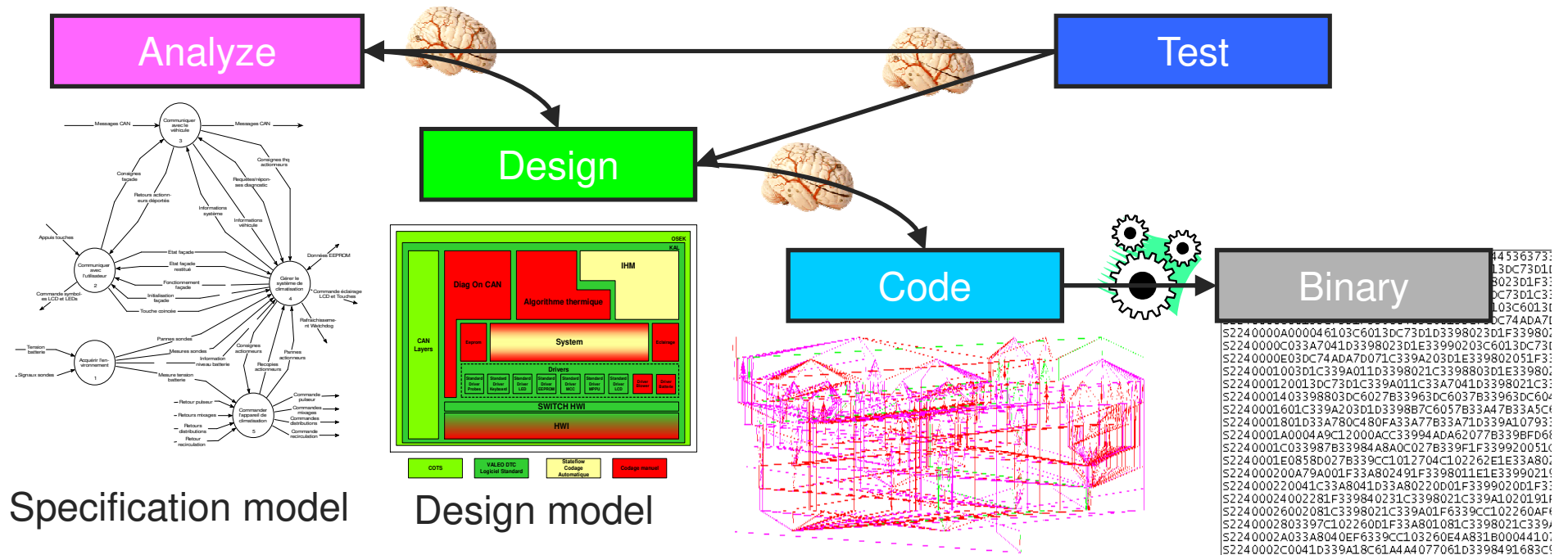
=> Relation complexity

- Unstable requirements



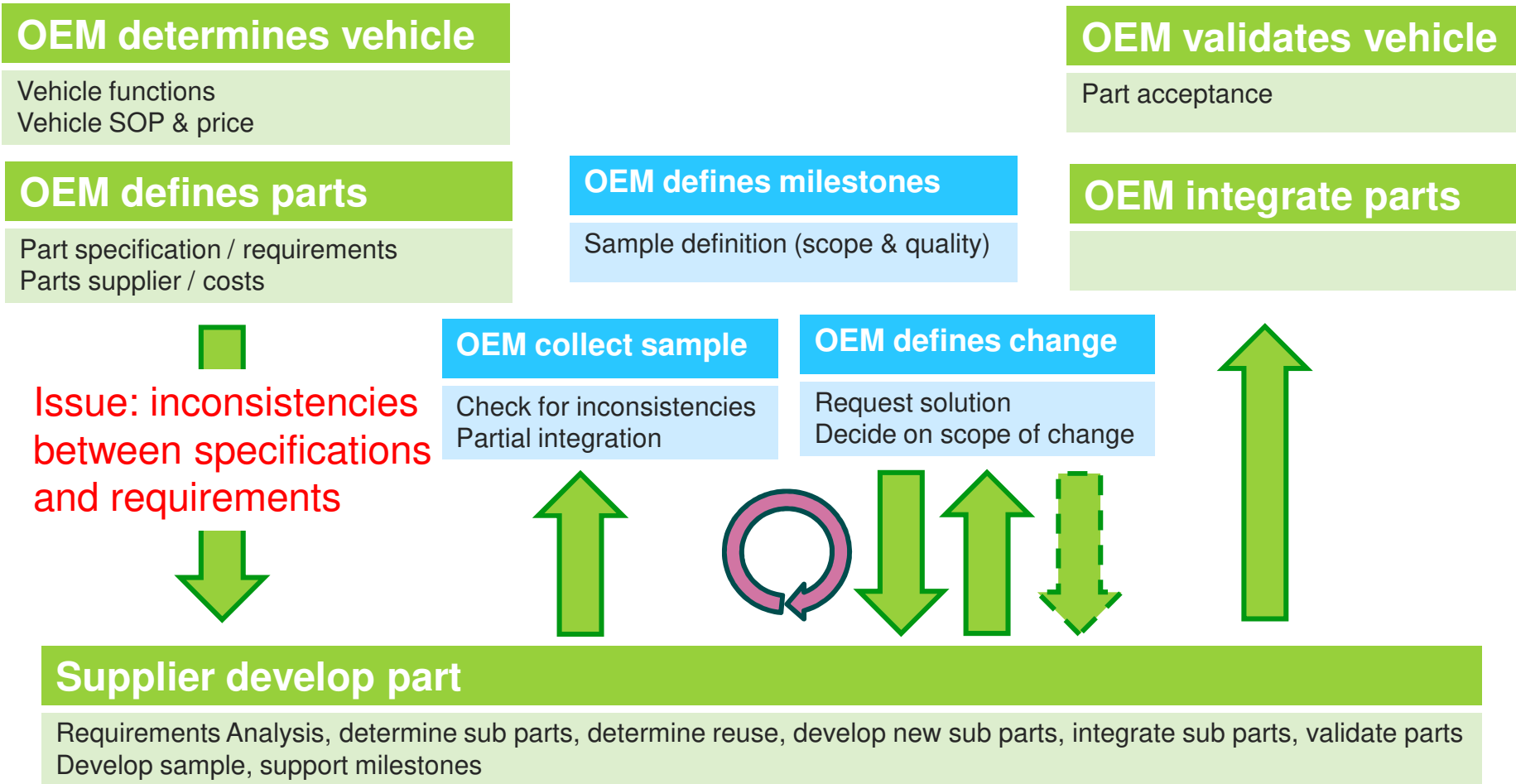
# Software Quality Concept

- Software Complexity harnessing is needed
  - Because SW Design is Human; Human cognitive capacity is limited
  - Reducing complexity at each step « guarantee » SW quality
  - Thanks to appropriate organization, process, technical design rules



Software Quality is achieved by reducing complexity at each PROCESS STEP

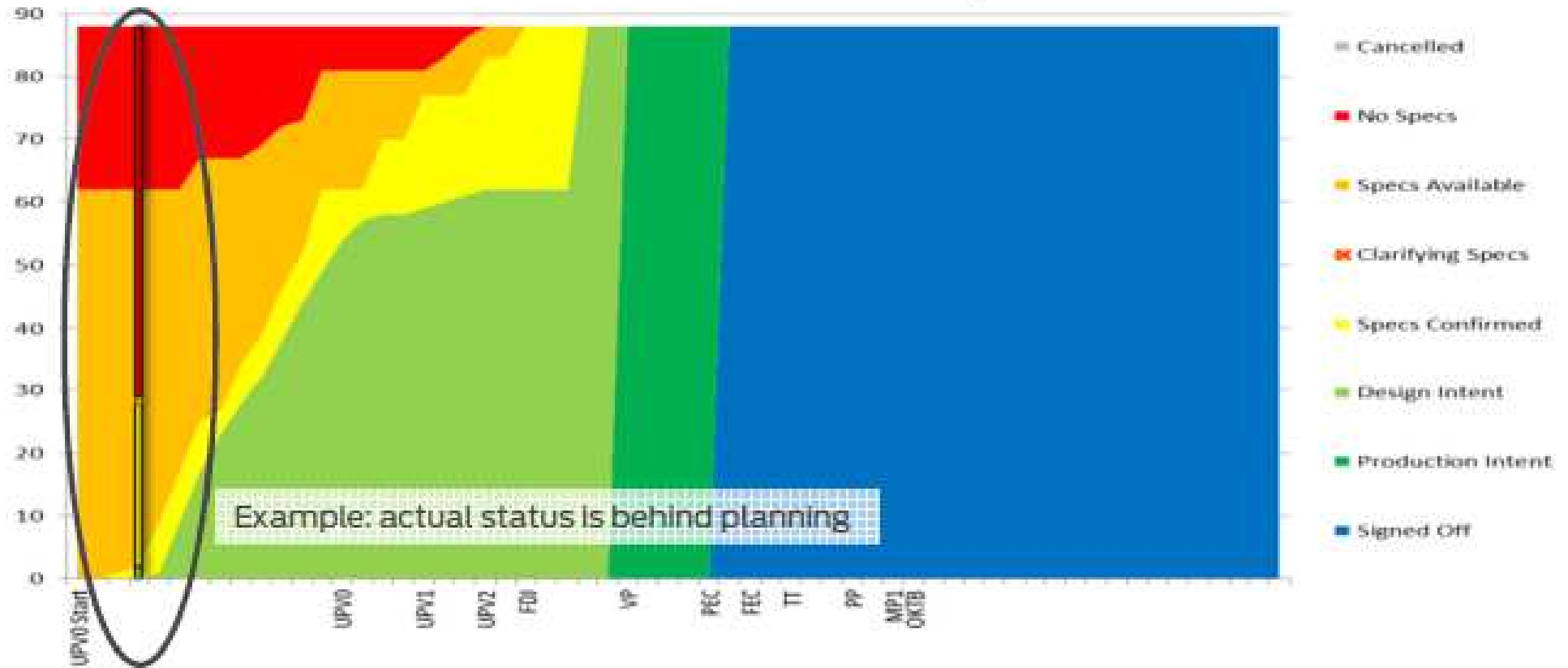
# Vehicle development process



**Process is Iterative in Nature and OEMs need to start somewhere**

# Vehicle development process - Example

## Feature Function Development



Source : FORD QPIP11C - Supplier\_Reports\_Supplier\_presentation



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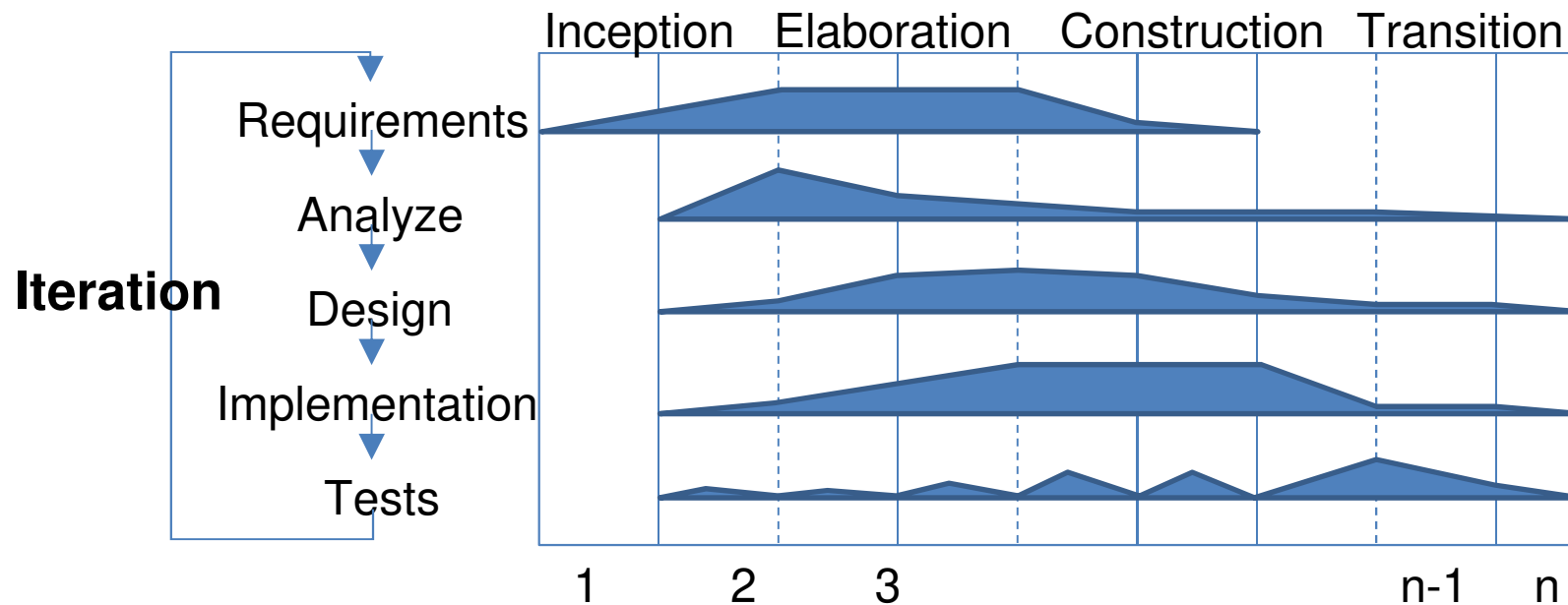
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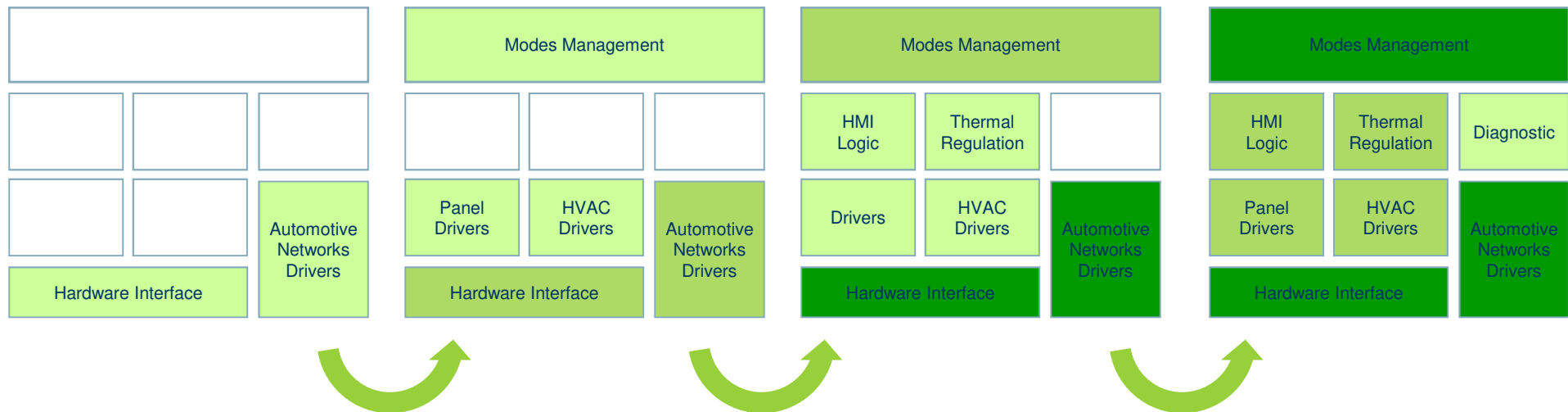
# Iterative/incremental approach

- **Cut the process complexity** using iterative approach
  - Manage small work package
  - Deliver frequently to have feedback
  - Bring closer all V-Cycle activities
  - Limit work in progress
  - Match to customer feature implementation plan



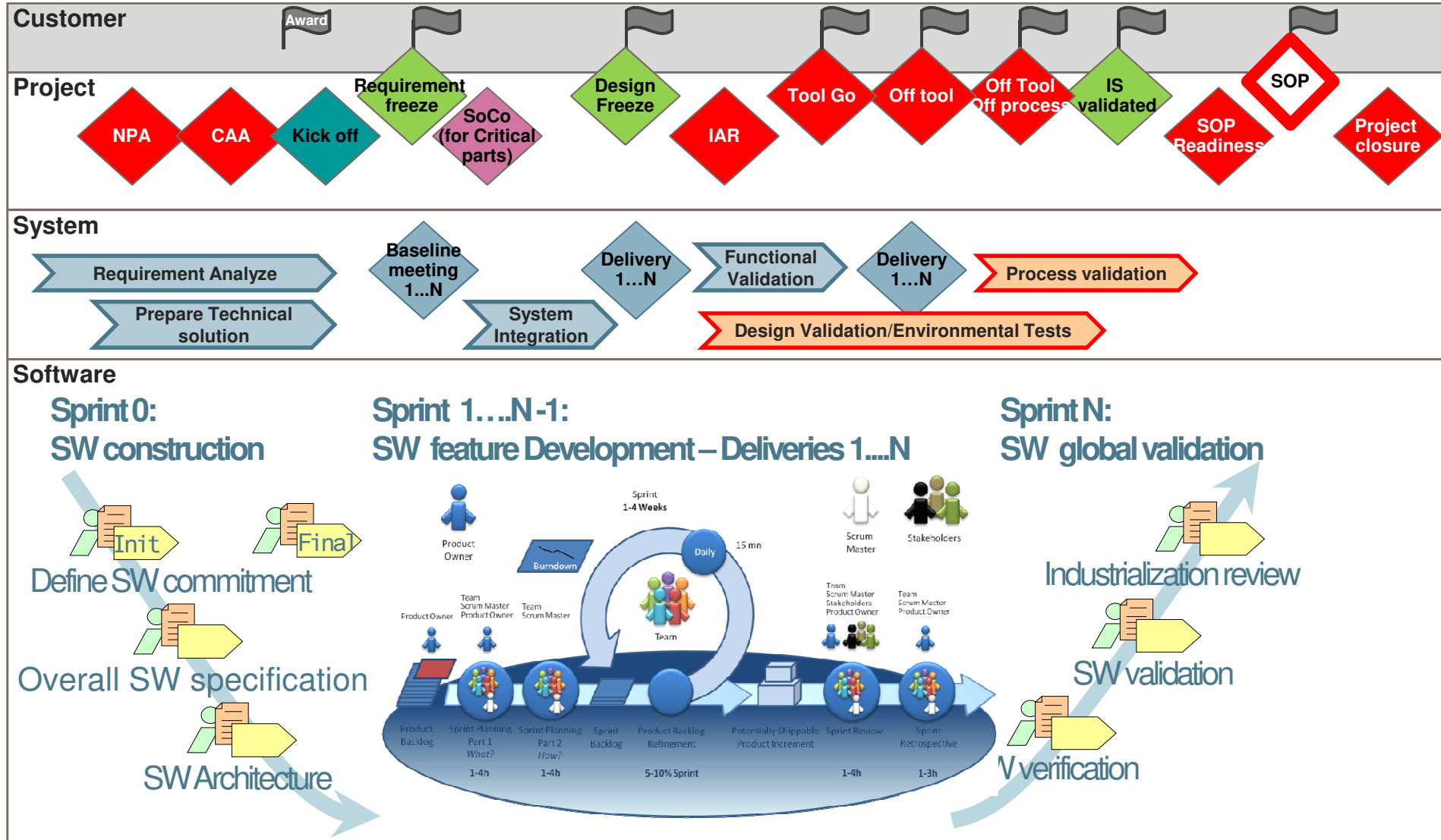
# Iterative/incremental approach

- **Cut the product complexity** using incremental approach
  - Validate first technical and architectural assumptions
  - First indentify hard real time and material constraints
  - Do more often what hurts the most (continuous integration, test immediately)
  - Monitor technical debt
  - Demonstrate product quality before to go to mass production





# VALEO Incremental/Iterative process



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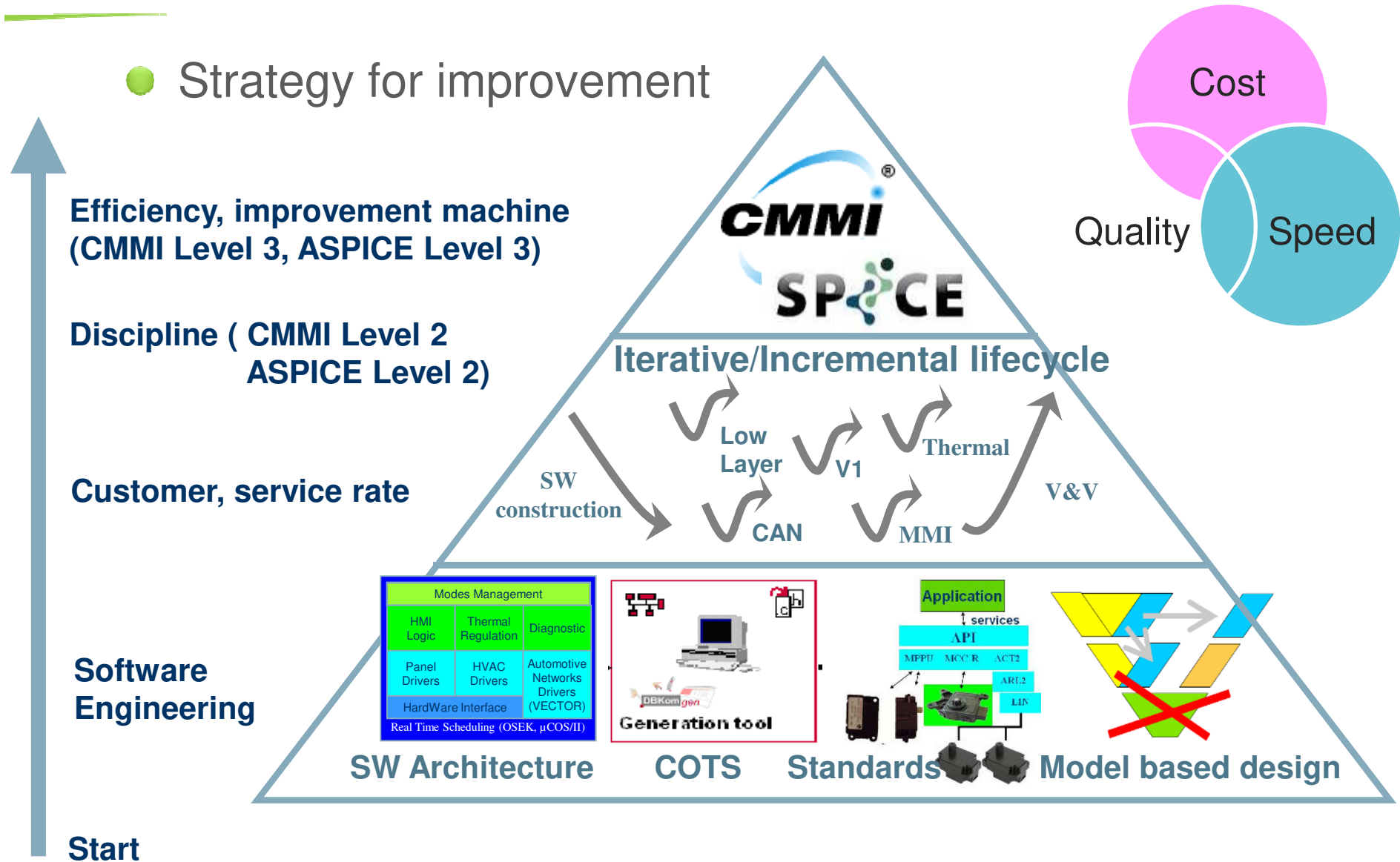
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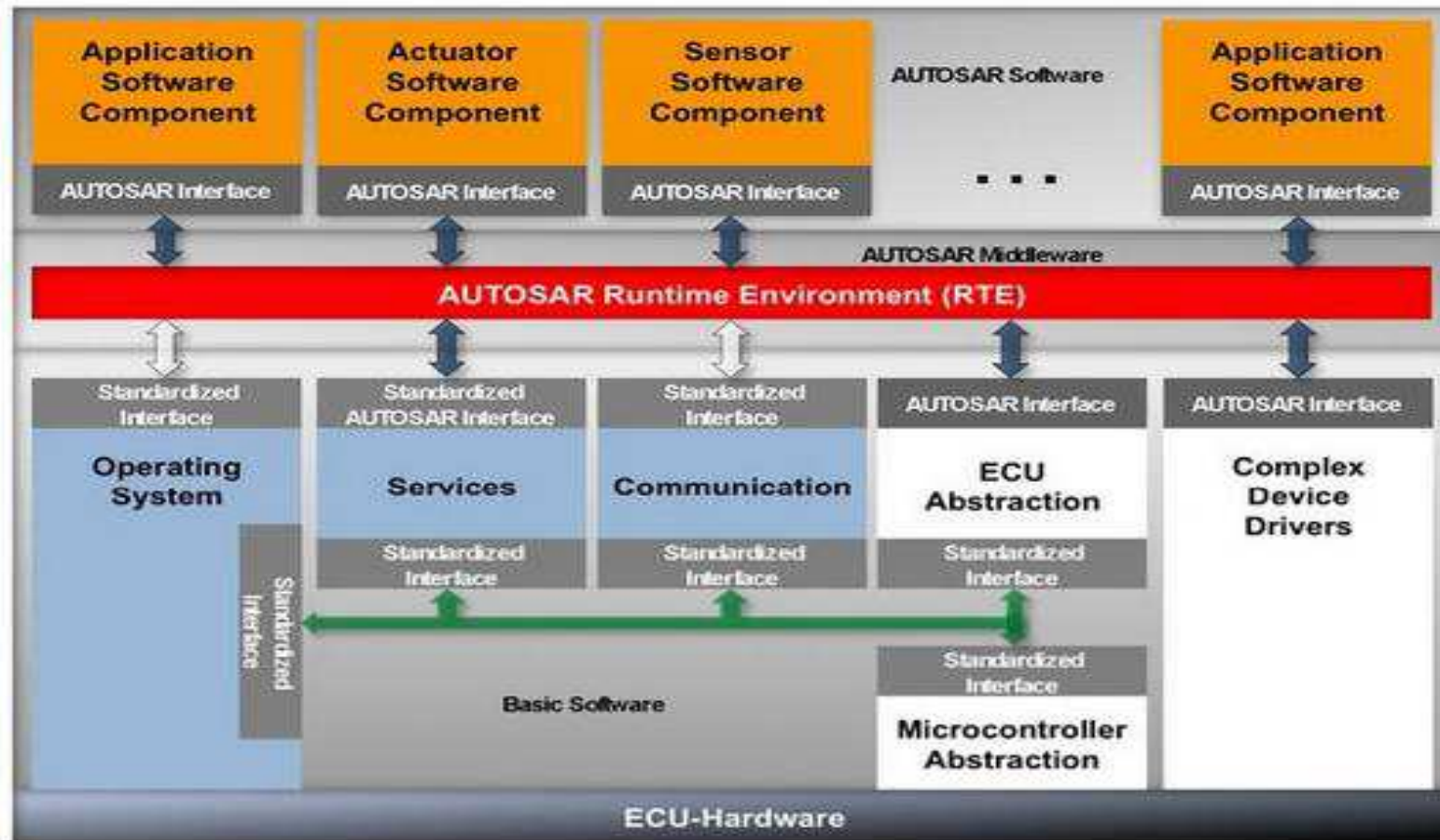


# Basics for test optimization

- Strategy for improvement



# Standard Architecture



# Requirement development approach

- **Cut the complexity**, thinking to architecture
  - CMMI – Requirements Development (RD) Practices

## SG 1 Develop Customer Requirements

SP 1.1 Elicit Needs

SP 1.2 Transform Stakeholder Needs into Customer Requirements

## SG 2 Develop Product Requirements

SP 2.1 Establish Product and Product Component Requirements

SP 2.2 Allocate Product Component Requirements

SP 2.3 Identify Interface Requirements

## SG 3 Analyze and Validate Requirements

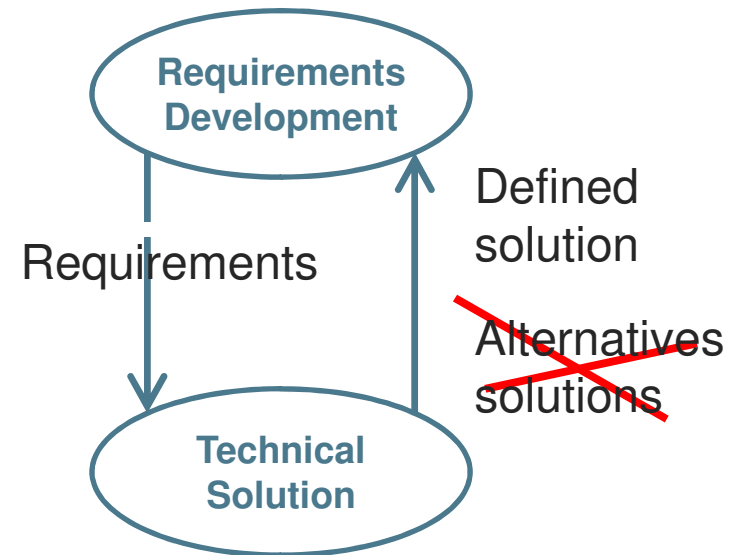
SP 3.1 Establish Operational Concepts and Scenarios

SP 3.2 Establish a Definition of Required Functionality and Quality Attributes

SP 3.3 Analyze Requirements

SP 3.4 Analyze Requirements to Achieve Balance

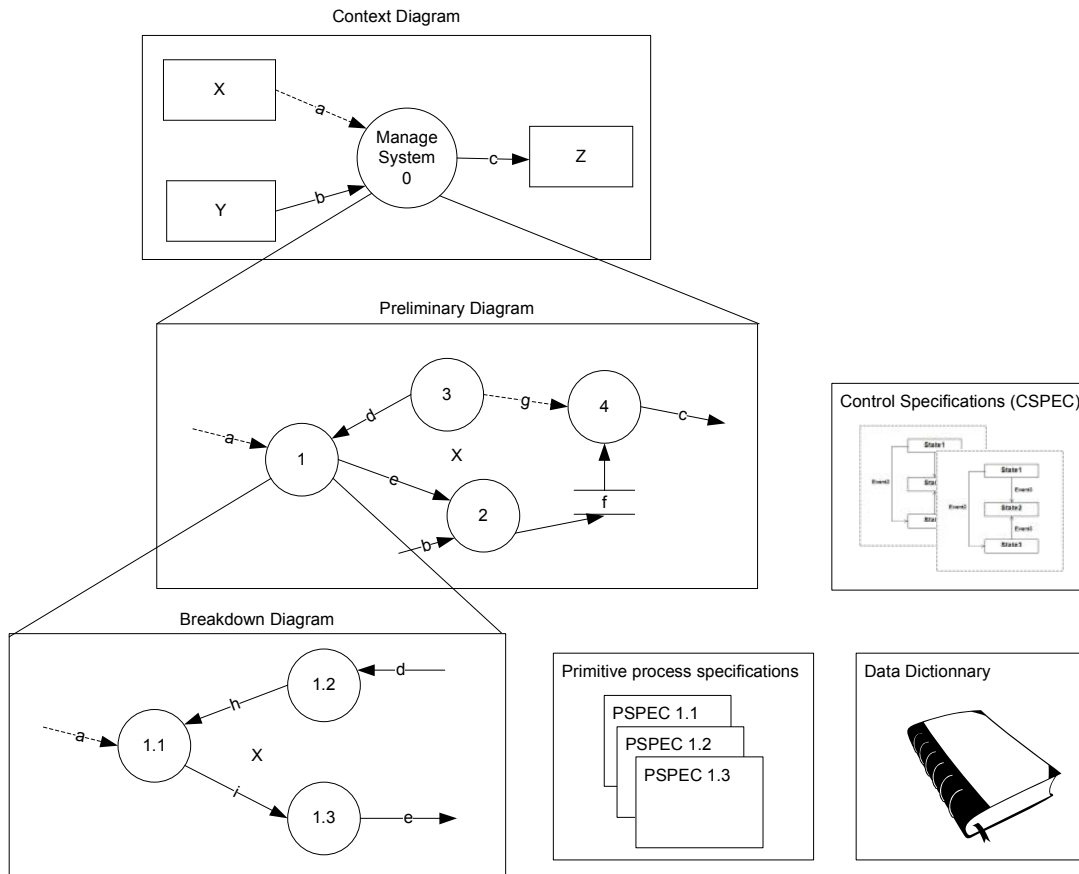
SP 3.5 Validate Requirements



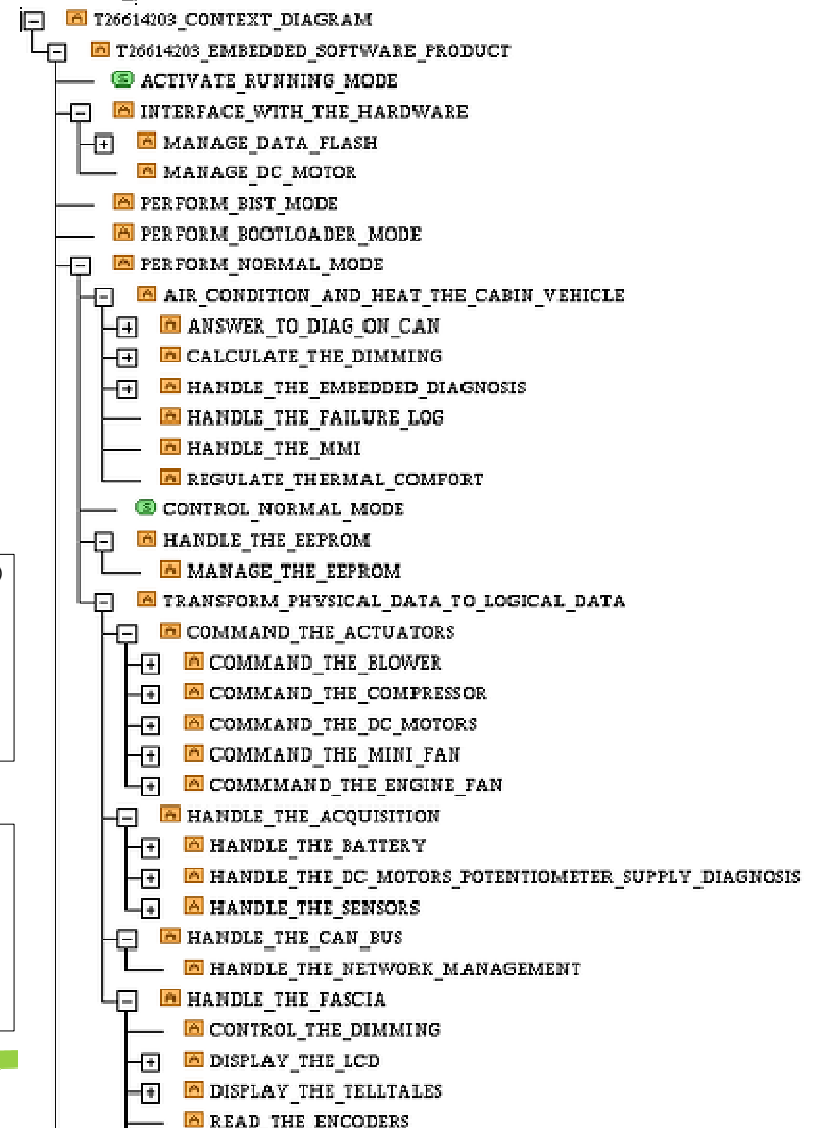
- **Architecture Driven**
  - Early technical solutions.....  
.....flexible to support iteration
  - Influenced by standard architecture  
experience of the team

# Requirement analysis (1/2)

- Functional approach
  - From Context diagram...
  - ... to full SART model



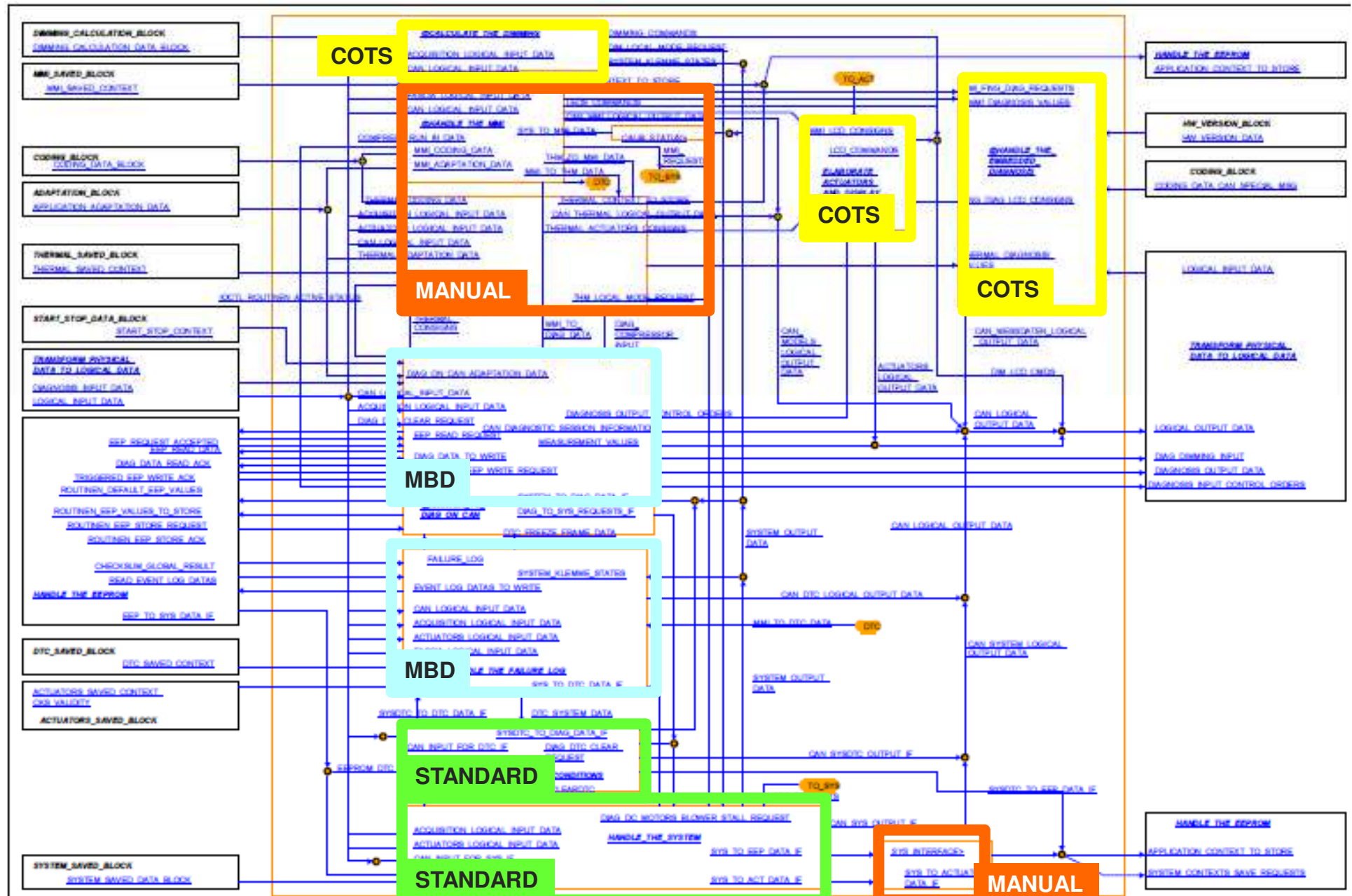
## Architecture oriented



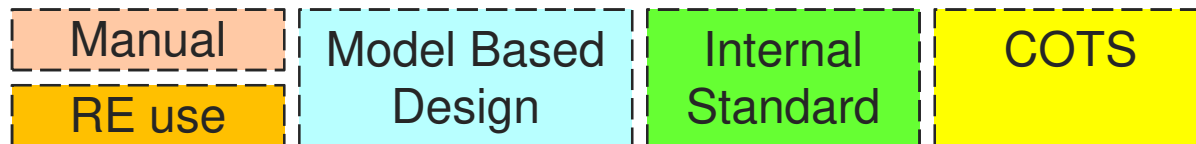
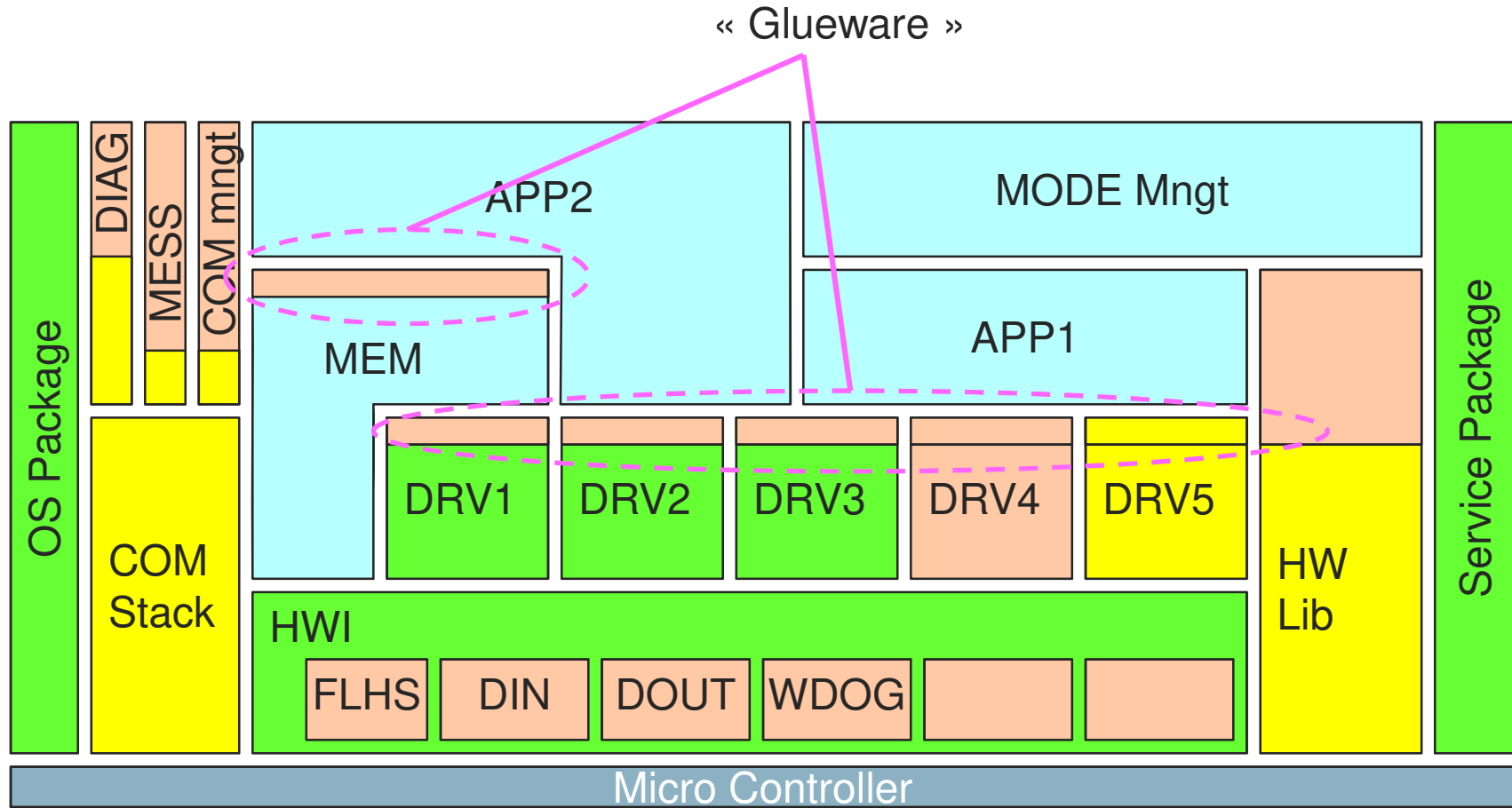
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# Requirement analysis (2/2)



# Standard Architecture – Component type (1/2)



# Standard Architecture – Component type (2/2)

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- Component typology:
  - Manual coding (Component developed by the team for the project)
  - Internal standards components (Standards)
  - Component of the Shelf (COTS)
  - Model Based Design (MDB)
- + « **Glue ware** » : **Coding of interface between components**
- Purpose is to have simple « Glue ware »
  - No functional requirement allocated (No intelligence inside)
  - Implement process interfaces only (Mapping, scaling, multiplex, event management...)
  - Implement standard/COTS configuration



# Manual coding – Tests strategy

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## ● Test Objectives

### ● Component Unit Tests

- 100% Modified Condition Decisions coverage
- « Glue ware », Diagnosis (Garage) functions excluded.

### ● Component integration tests

- Design constraints; Integration constraints; Configuration tested
- All interfaces tested (API, shared resources, component used)
- Component performance (Efficiency, Initialization, dynamic behavior)

### ● Functional Validation

- 100% requirements tested using equivalence class method
- Regression tests before delivery to functional validation
- ⇒ 1 nominal test per implemented feature and external interfaces

## ● Test practices

- Unit test part of coding activity (Automatic Test campaign)
- Requirements are categorized and analyzed for correctness and testability

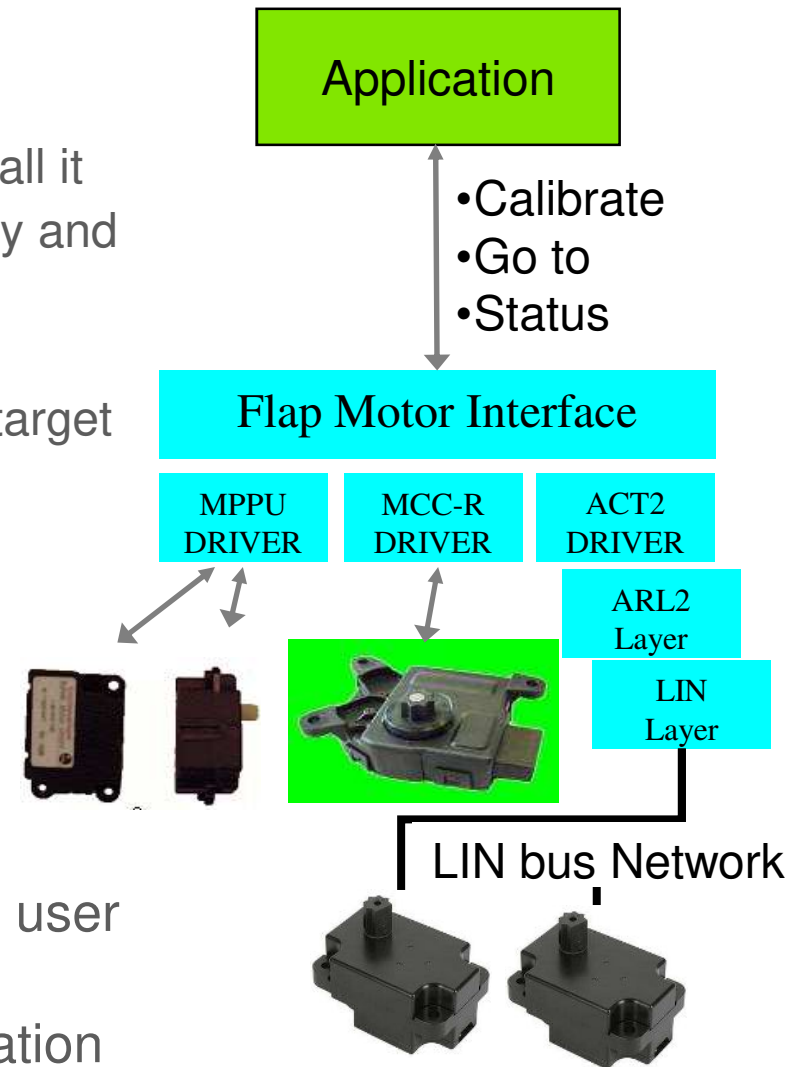
# Standard components – Impact on tests

- Standard component : 3 parts

- API : standard interface :
  - Defines the function and the way to call it
  - Stable in time: it masks the complexity and the evolutions of the implementation
- Implementation (Core) :
  - Realizes the function for a particular target
  - **Incorruptible (Special archiving rules)**
- Variable part :
  - Tunes the standard to project needs

- Impact on Tests

- Unit Tests to run on  $\mu$ C target only
- Integration Test plan delivered with user manual
- Functional tests limited to configuration



# COTS – Impact on tests

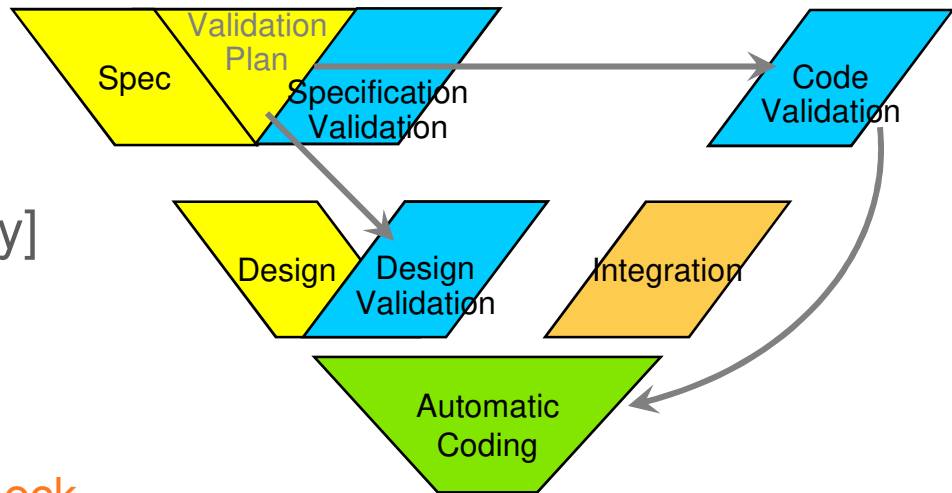
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- Usage of Components on the shelf (COTS)
  - For OS (OSEK norm)
  - For Communication stacks (CAN, LIN, FLEXRAY norms)
  - For Autosar components (Memory stack...)
- Impact on test
  - Unit Tests are done by Supplier of COTS
    - Par of supplier delivery acceptance (SAM process)
  - Integration tests checks all configuration
  - Functional tests based on Test Suite provided with norms

# Example : Impact on Tests in MBD

- Model Based Design (MBD) component Test

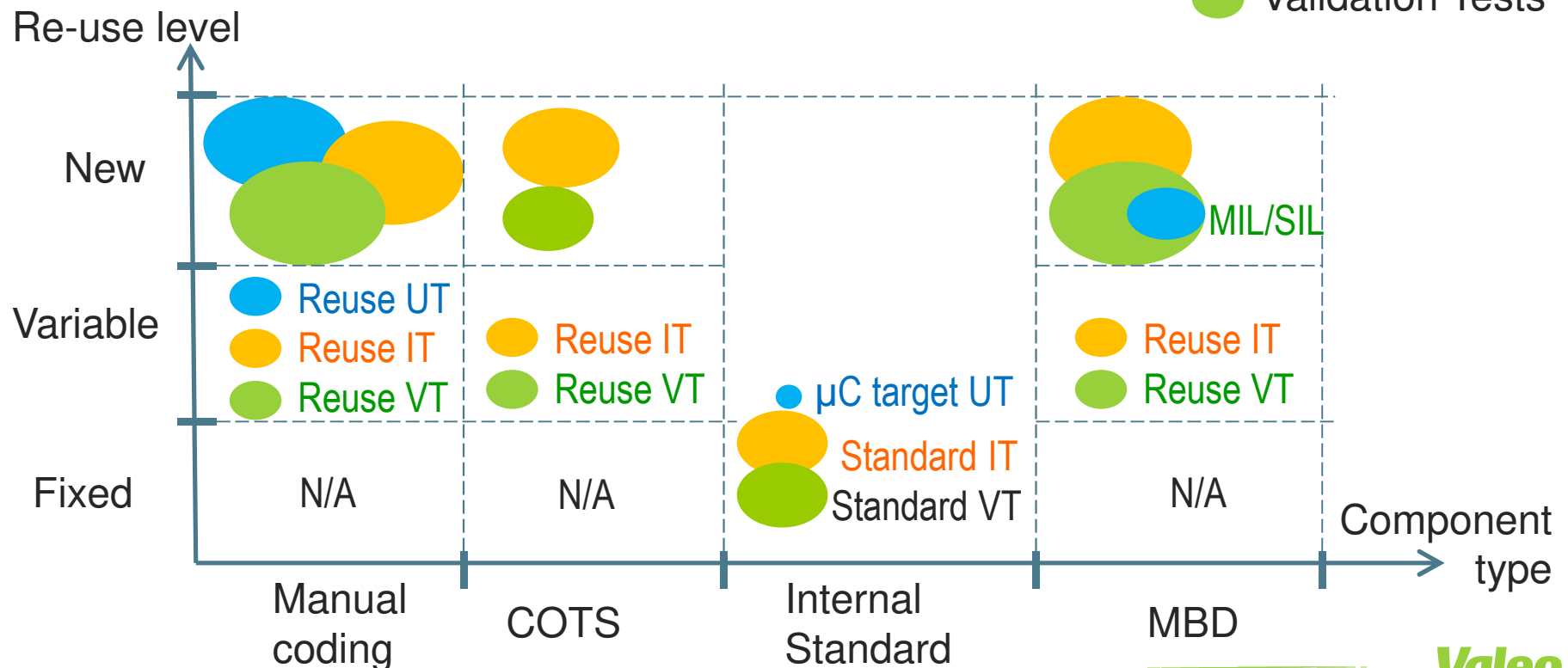
- Floating point Specification
- Fixed point design model [For continuous models only]
- Automatic code generation
  - No unit test
  - Code generator bug list check
  - Polyspace check on code generated
- Validation played on both model
  - Functional test case design (Equivalence Class method)
  - Robustness tests
  - Structural test (MIL/SIL/PIL coverage)
- PC Executable can be delivered by mail to Car Manufacturer for validation



# Conclusion – Test effort

- Test optimization result
  - Unit Test effort divided by 10
  - SW team focus on integration test
  - Functional validation focus on new parts

- Unit Test
- Integration Tests
- Validation Tests



# Agenda

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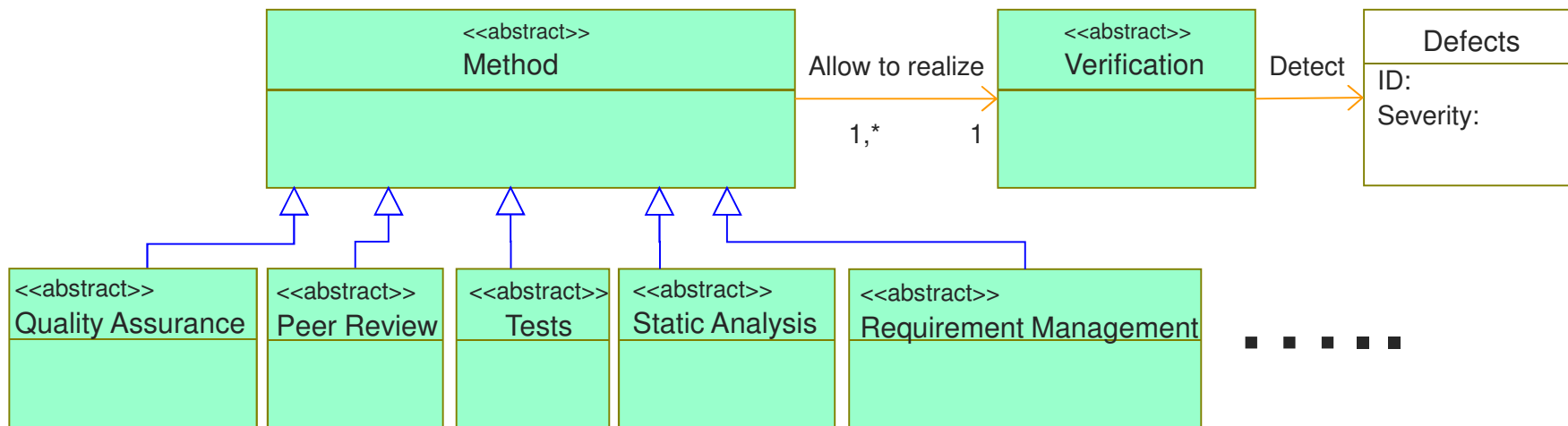
- 1** Tests usual/specific issues in real-time embedded automotive software - Context
- 2** Optimize test effort during design process - Triptych
- 3** Test and verification techniques portfolio - Examples

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# Verifications Versus Validation

- Purpose

- Validation: Demonstrate that the software product or some software component fulfills its intended use when placed in its intended environment => **“Is it the right software”**
- Verification: Ensure that the software work products meet their explicit and implicit requirements => **“Is the software right”**
- To guarantee SW quality, organization focus on validation, but scope of verification methods is large...



# Best verification techniques

- Relative cost of fault correction << *standard figures* >>

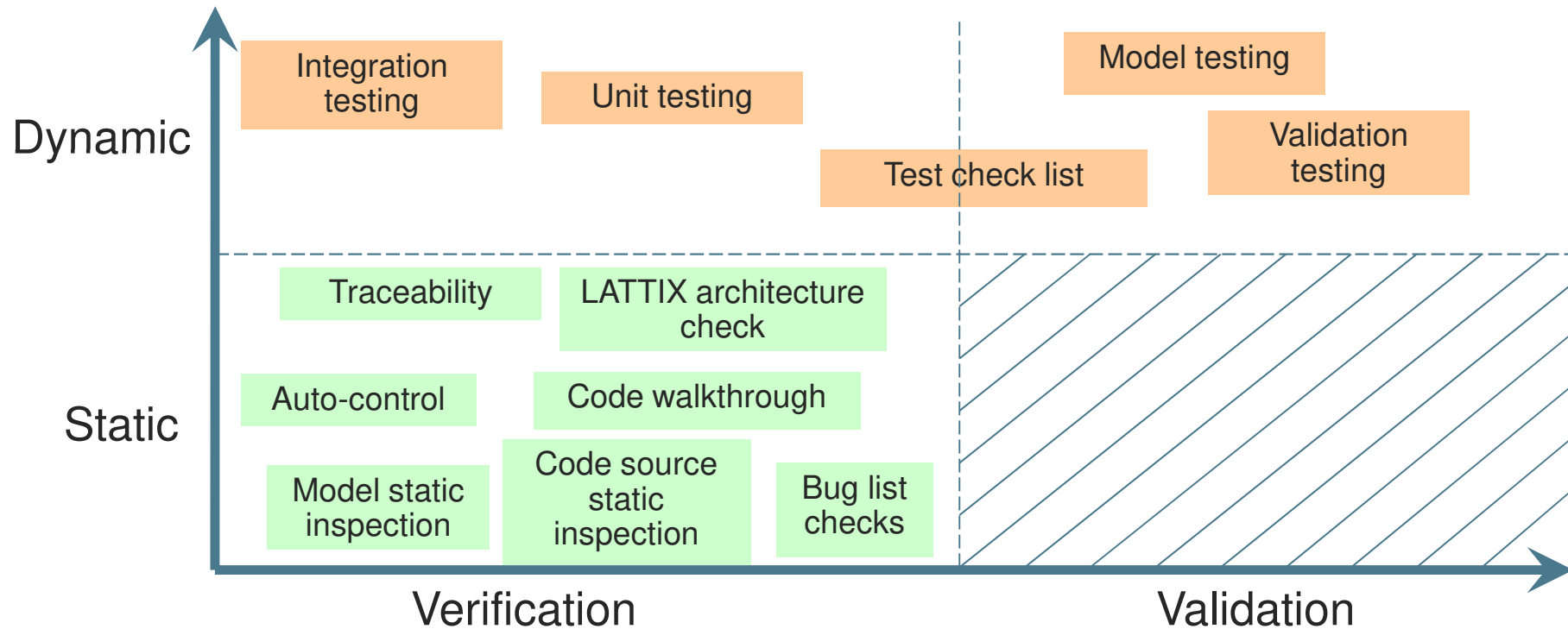
Stage of fault correction	Relative cost						
SW development plan	1						
Product requirement	1,3	1					
SW specification	2,4	1,8	1				
SW design	3,3	2,4	1,3	1			
Unit/integration test	6,8	5,1	2,8	2,1	1		
Validation tests	26	19	11	8	3,8	1	
Product/Vehicle integration	96	72	39	30	14	3,7	1

- We need techniques for effective and earlier (in the lifecycle) defect removal, and technical debt limitation
  - Before coding (Peer reviews, simulation, calculation, executable spec, experience check-list)
  - Before integration (Static analysis, Unit test)



# Verification techniques mapping in VALEO

- Static testing  
=> Testing of an object without execution on a computer.
- Dynamic testing  
=> Testing software through executing it.



# Peer reviews - Benefits

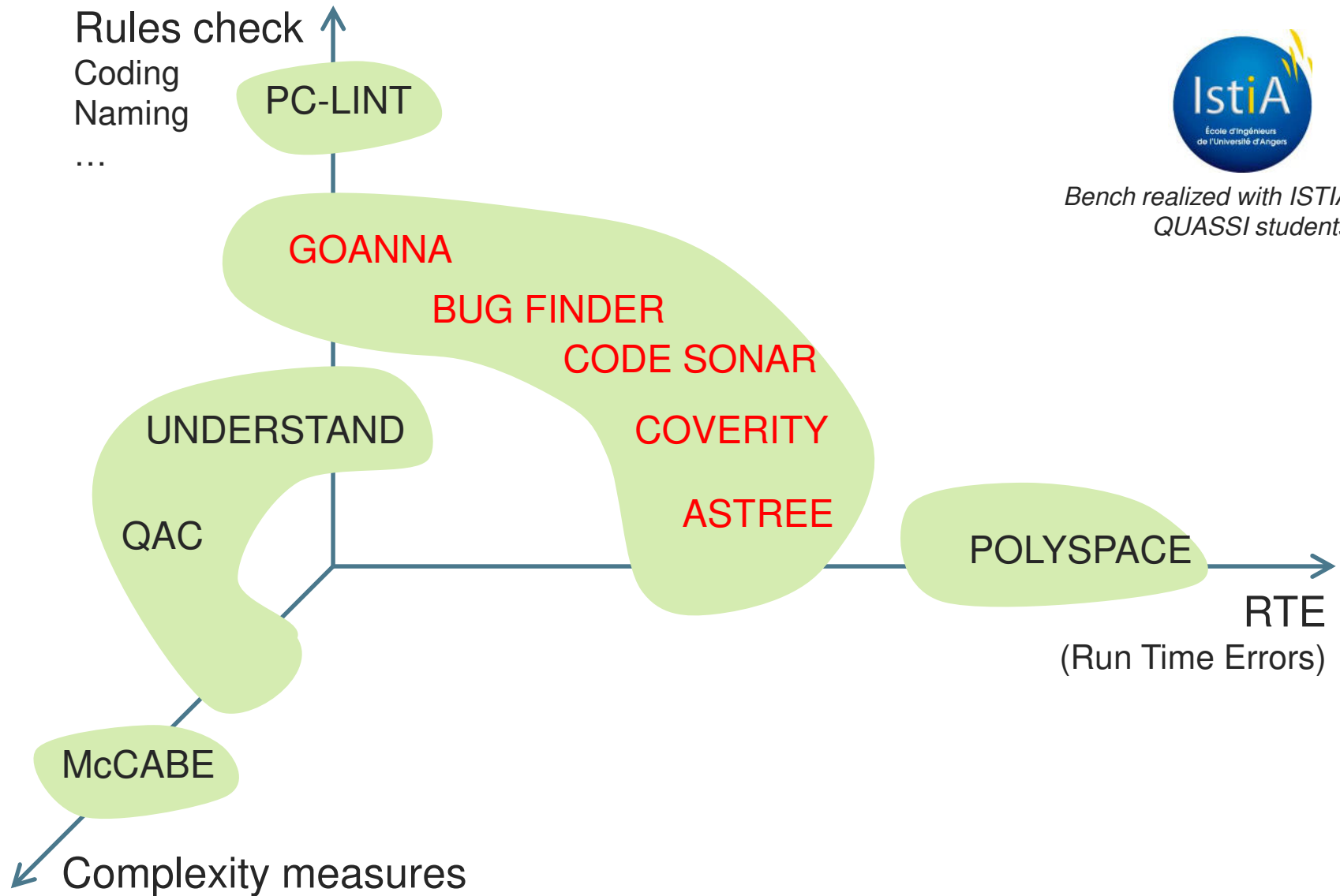
*Detect defects “at the earliest, at the cheapest”*

- Peer reviews should focus on design phase
  - Defect introduction: 80% in implementation, 20% in Spec/Design
- Figures

Read pages per hour (page/hour)	7,59
Defects Acceptance (%)	67,5%
Defects per page (Blocking + Major)/page	0,25
Defects per hour (Blocking + Major)/hour	1,91

  - ISC Payback  
**ROI = 1 : 8,5**
  - Hours in peer review are about 4% of SW development workforce.
- Corollary: Intangible benefits
  - Team work – Team spirit promotion - Transferring knowledge - On the Job Training
  - Culture (Embed quality assurance in process, professional attitude, open mind)
  - Standards can be improved, or come to life thru inspections

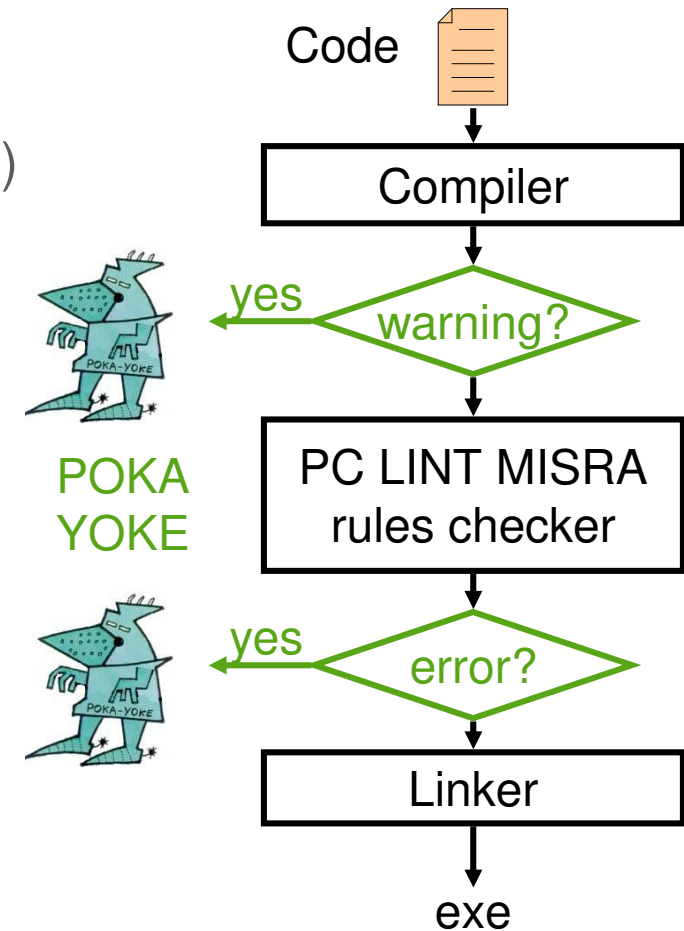
# Static analysis (1/3) – 3 axes for static analysis



Bench realized with ISTIA  
QUASSI students

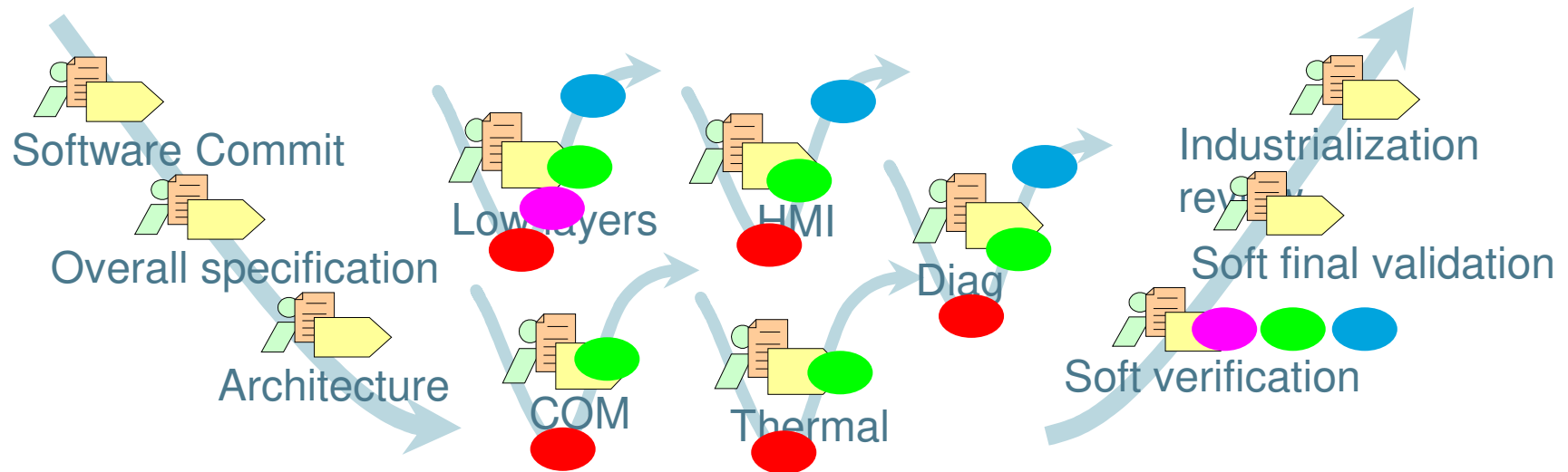
# Static analysis (2/3) – Production chain

- Coding rules check purpose:
  - Reliability (Defensive programming)
  - Maintainability (Robust to modification)
- Use centralized IDE
  - **Incorruptible**
- Integrate coding rules checks in production chain
  - Max level of compiler warning
  - MISRA rules checker (PC-LINT)
  - Naming rules checker (QAC-VNR)
- **Poka Yoke («*Détrompeur*»)**

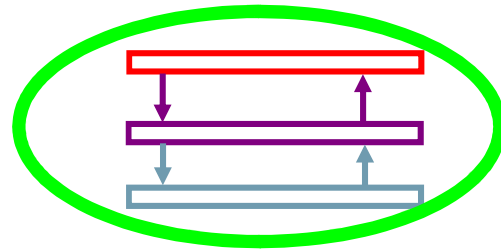
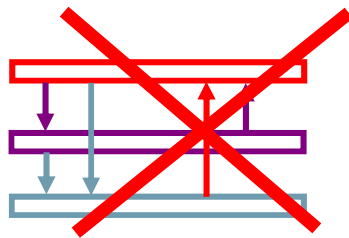


# Static analysis (3/3) – Cadencing

- Coding rules check                      ⇒ IDE + Customer deliveries                      ● ●
- Run-Time Errors analysis                ⇒ Project dependant                                      ●
- Assumptions made for test optimization:
  - ⇒ Need to be checked along project
  - Cut complexity in architecture            ⇒ Architecture pattern check                      ●
  - Simple « Glue ware »                      ⇒ Code complexity check                              ●
  - Re-use level                                    ⇒ Configuration Management check                ●



# Static analysis – Architecture pattern check (1/2)



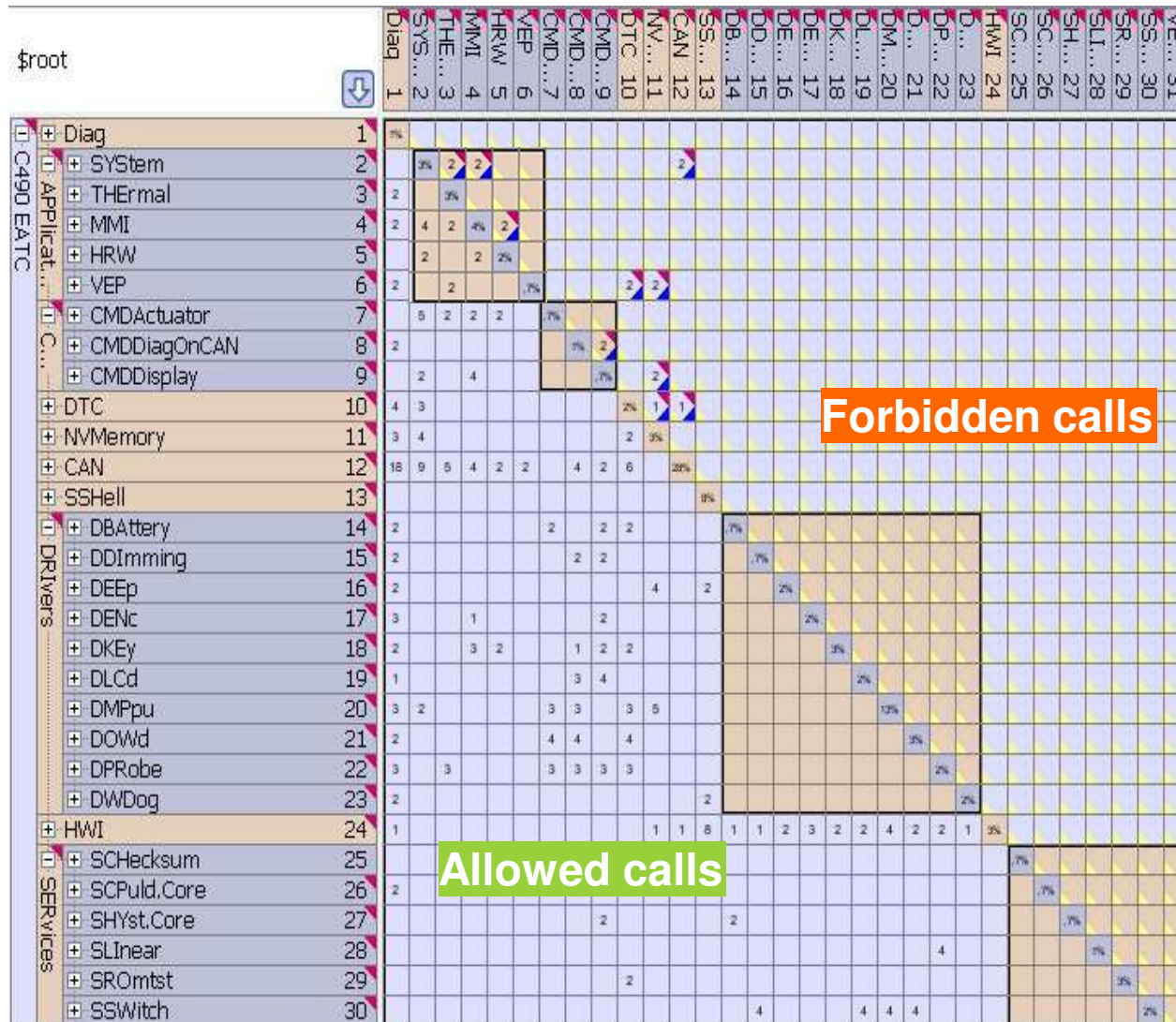
Static architecture layering

A component in the layer N provides its services to the layer N+1 and uses the services of the layer N-1

- Check done during component integration test + regression test
  - Use of “design structure matrix” (DSM) to represent the system
  - Tester can easily comprehend architecture pattern by looking at single table



# Static analysis – Architecture pattern check (2/2)



- Rules defined
- Rules violated
- Analyze done

← DSM partitioning (Sub system)



# Static analysis – Assumptions check

- Code complexity check

- Check assumption of simple code that drives test optimization
  - Interfaces between components (« Glue ware »)
  - Diagnosis (Garage) functions, Hardware access  $\mu$ C dependant

...it can happen that interface implement treatments (Deliberate or inadvertent technical debt)

- Used criteria



- Cyclomatic complexity + Essential complexity
- Code destructureations
- Code decision/condition density

- Typical outcomes (After analysis)

Metrics	Ratio	Absolute	Comment/Decision
Critical Function	7,32%	259/3539	=> Below 10% treshold
Critical GLUEWARE function	2,13%	5/235	=> Re factor Interface
Critical MANUAL HWI function	17,65%	18/102	=> Control plan
Critical MANUAL DIAG function	4,04%	11/272	=> Control plan



# Experience check-list

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« *Errare humanum est, perseverare diabolicum* »

- Capitalization of VALEO experience is based on Lessons Learned Card process:
  - Customer issues root causes are analyzed
  - Fault Tree Analysis is conducted for bug Occurrence/Non-Detection
  - Standard process is improved accordingly
- Most efficient ways:
  - Use Design Anti-pattern check list «*Betisier*»
  - Use experience test check list (« IJIWARU » tests)
    - Or « how to test what software is not supposed to do »?
  - Use all code generator bug list

# Conclusion

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- Optimize test strategy
  - Appropriate process (Build quality, cut project complexity)
  - Cut product complexity
  - Requirement analyze is Architecture driven
  - Promote Re-use
- Complement test with static analysis
  - Sooner the better (Before code or close to code)
  - Do not forget to check assumption for test optimization





Automotive technology, naturally

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